

Jonathan O. Peña, Esq.  
CA Bar ID No.: 278044  
Peña & Bromberg, PLC  
2440 Tulare St., Ste. 320  
Fresno, CA 93721  
Telephone: 559-439-9700  
Facsimile: 559-439-9723  
Email: info@jonathanpena.com  
Attorney for Plaintiff, Rafael Macias

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
FRESNO DIVISION**

Rafael Macias,

Plaintiff,

v.

Martin O'Malley<sup>1</sup>, Commissioner of Social  
Security,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:23-cv-01034-SKO

STIPULATION AND UNOPPOSED MOTION  
FOR AWARD AND PAYMENT OF  
ATTORNEYS FEES PURSUANT TO THE  
EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT (28 U.S.C.  
§2412(d))

(Doc. 20)

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between the parties through their undersigned counsel, subject to the approval of the Court, that Plaintiff be awarded attorney fees and expenses in the amount of SIX THOUSAND ONE-HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS and 89/100 (\$6,190.89) under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and costs in the amount of zero dollars (\$0.00) under 28 U.S.C. §1920. This amount represents compensation for all legal services rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 1920, 2412(d).

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<sup>1</sup> Martin O'Malley became the Commissioner of Social Security on December 20, 2023. Pursuant to Rule 25(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Martin O'Malley should be substituted for Kilolo Kijakazi as the defendant in this suit. No further action need be taken to continue this suit by reason of the last sentence of section 205(g) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

1 After the Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Plaintiff, the government will consider the  
2 matter of Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees to counsel. Pursuant to *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586,  
3 598, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 177 L.Ed.2d 91 (2010), the ability to honor the assignment will depend on  
4 whether the fees are subject to any offset allowed under the United States Department of the  
5 Treasury's Offset Program. After the order for EAJA fees is entered, the government will determine  
6 whether they are subject to any offset.

7 Fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of the Treasury determines that  
8 Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause the payment of fees, expenses  
9 and costs to be made directly to Counsel, pursuant to the assignment executed by Plaintiff. Any  
10 payments made shall be delivered and made payable to Plaintiff's counsel, Jonathan O. Peña.  
11 Additionally, any payment of costs under 28 U.S.C. §1920 may be made either by electronic fund  
12 transfer (ETF) or by check.

13 This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for EAJA attorney  
14 fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of Defendant under the EAJA or  
15 otherwise. Payment of the agreed amount shall constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any  
16 and all claims that Plaintiff and/or Counsel including Counsel's firm may have relating to EAJA  
17 attorney fees in connection with this action.

18 This award is without prejudice to the rights of Counsel and/or Counsel's firm to seek Social  
19 Security Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the savings clause provisions of the  
20 EAJA.

21 Respectfully submitted,

22  
23 Dated: March 21, 2024

24 /s/ Jonathan O. Peña  
JONATHAN O. PEÑA  
Attorney for Plaintiff

25  
26 Dated: March 21, 2024

27 PHILLIP A. TALBERT  
United States Attorney  
MATHEW W. PILE  
Associate General Counsel

Office of Program Litigation  
Social Security Administration

By: \* Michael Marriott  
Michael Marriott  
Special Assistant U.S. Attorney  
Attorneys for Defendant  
(\*Permission to use electronic signature  
obtained via email on March 21, 2024 ).

**ORDER**

Based upon the parties' Stipulation for the Award and Payment of Equal Access to Justice Act Fees and Expenses (the "Stipulation") (Doc. 20), **IT IS ORDERED** that fees and expenses in the amount of SIX THOUSAND ONE-HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS and 89/100 (\$6,190.89) as authorized by the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 22, 2024

/s/ Sheila K. Oberto  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE